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REPORTS
OF THE SELECTMEN

AND

Superintending School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

MARCH 1, 1879.



BRATTLEBORO:
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REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN OF CHESTERFIELD.

March 1, 1879.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in the treasury, Mar. 1, 1878,	\$673 51
On tax bill 1876,	147 82
Interest on tax bill of 1876,	57 98
On tax bill 1877, •	920 98
County pauper claim,	298 62
Freeman Knight's Estate,	4 79
Railroad tax,	1 34
Savings bank tax,	595 64
Literary fund,	87 69
Interest on temporary loan,	26 69
John W. Davi's note,	100 00
Assessments for the year 1878,	6,283 53
Interest on tax bill 1877,	29 02
Use of town hall,	23 00
Use of the common,	5 00
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	\$9,255 61

PAYMENTS.

ON ACCOUNT OF TOWN DEBTS.

Town notes and interest,	\$1,048 00
Town Bond,	220 00
Interest on town bonds,	52 80
	\$1,320 80

TOWN PAUPERS.

For Rawson W. Hubbard,	220 43	
Chauncy R. Hildreth,	106 50	
Charles Harvey's Family,	22 66	
Fred A. Wilson,	52 00	
Freeman Knight,	38 02	
Eleanor Darling,	103 60—	\$543 21

COUNTY PAUPERS.

Humphrey Albee,	156 00	
Hannah Crouch,	32 00	
Peter Dersa,	65 82	
Mary J. Amidon,	76 29	
Charles Lewis,	30 64—	\$360 75

TOWN HOUSE.

Paid for ringing bell and care of house,	9 50	
For oil and repairs,	4 88—	\$14 38

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid William Atherton, services as Selectman,	40 00	
Murray Davis, " "	90 00	
George Goodrich, " "	45 00	
Hermon C. Harvey, " as town Clerk,	37 42	
Murray Davis, " as " Treas.,	25 00	
C. C. Hildreth, " as Constable,	3 00	
Oscar E. Sargeant, " as Collector,	50 00	
Murray Davis, services as Moderator		
three days,	6 00	
Juffries Hall, services as S. S. Com.	30 00—	\$326 42

SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

No. 1,	\$154 76
2,	115 20
3,	93 69
4,	93 57
5,	150 44
6,	99 18
7,	94 52
8,	95 34
9,	98 20

10,	130 13
11,	83 76
12,	91 99
13,	220 76
14,	83 67 \$1,605 21

BRIDGE PLANK AND TIMBER.

Paid George A. Spafford,	\$8 00
F. N. Robertson,	7 96
Amos E. Brown,	2 15
H. C. Streeter,	7 61
M. H. Butler,	9 36
A. H. Field,	2 25
Asa F. Farr,	4 48
J. H. Goodrich,	31 07
J. L. Streeter,	2 39
Thomas Sumner,	5 00
M. G. Wright,	80
John E. Joslin,	4 36
B. F. Pierce,	1 32
George Goodrich,	1 86— \$88 61

LABOR ON ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Amos E. Brown,	\$36 21
George Goodrich,	63 65
M. B. Shaw,	25 70
George Spaulding,	27 60
A. M. Spring,	2 86
W. A. Pattridge,	17 27
M. E. Chandler,	1 00
John E. Joslin,	5 40
A. H. Field,	2 50
Willard Henry,	3 60— \$185 79

Miscellaneous.

Paid for Stationery and Postage,	\$3 48
Express,	1 28
Falkner & Batchelder, retaining fee,	6 00
George Goodrich, stove for Lockup,	1 50
R. W. Emerson, repairing road machine,	7 76
R. W. Emerson, repairing Lockup,	3 25

Paid Invoice and memorandum books,	1 65
3 doz. Highway books,	3 00
2 Section books,	2 50
1 Collector's book,	1 25
County Commissioners, discontinuing road,	20 40
Printing town reports for 1877,	18 00
L. Thatcher, School house tax No. 5,	20 02
Spencer & Co., two ox shovels,	14 00
A. A. Baird, repairing road machine,	1 50
D. F. Randall, recording births and deaths,	2 00
J. H. Goodrich 2d, for bolts,	70
J. H. Goodrich 2d, for keeping tramps,	5 20
J. F. Butler, recording births and deaths, 1877-78,	9 75
W. H. Pierce, School house tax, No. 14,	15 00
Reuben Howe, damage to wagon,	2 25
Henry Fletcher, Highway tax, 1876,	11 13
30 copies Check-list,	4 00
Daggett & Wood, repairing road machine,	2 50
A. J. Beals, repairing fence around Cemetery,	2 00
County tax,	1,042 81
Discount on taxes paid prior to Oct. 1,	258 18
D. W. Patten, surveying town line,	3 00
State tax,	1,296 00
Taking affidavits,	2 30
Examining records,	50
J. Hall, posting School laws,	3 00
O. Peltier, repairing ox shovel,	1 00
George Goodrich, running town lines,	9 00
Wm. Atherton, running town lines,	16 35
P. H. Stone, work in Cemetery,	3 00
T. N. Robertson, surveying town line,	2 50
O. E. Sargeant, land sold for taxes,	22 10
One copy of the General Laws,	5 00
C. W. Chamberlain, damage to wagon,	3 00
E. H. Cobleigh, repairing water tub,	3 00
Due on tax book, 1878,	900 98
Team work on pauper and other business,	55 00
Non-resident Highway receipts,	30 95
Bounty on Foxes,	16 50
Bounty on Hawks,	2 60

Expense on Broker case,	524 32
G. H. Colburn, damage to sheep,	5 00
L. Thatcher, driving hearse,	13 30
1877 Bills,	6 50
Daniel Burt, for freight,	40
E. Hubbard, damage to sheep,	8 75
J. W. Davis' note in the treasury,	100 00
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	\$4,495 16
Total of all expenditures,	\$8,940 33
Cash in the treasury,	315 28
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	\$9,255 61

State of the Treasury, March 1, 1879.

LIABILITIES.

Town notes payable,	\$8,138 28
Town bonds,	913 00
Dog tax money,	85 25
	\$9,136 53

ASSETS.

Tax bill, 1869,	\$ 2 10	
Tax bill, 1871,	10 81	
Tax bill, 1877,	325 79	
Tax bill, 1878,	900 98	
County pauper claim,	86 43	
J. W. Davis' note in the treasury,	111 83	
Cash in the treasury,	315 28	\$1,753 22
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Town indebtedness,		\$7,383 31

Estimated Expense for the year 1879.

State tax,	\$1,296 00	
County tax,	1,042 81	
Town bonds,	220 00	
Interest on debt,	543 17	
Town charges,	1,000 00	
For schools,	1,500 00	
Support of paupers,	500 00	\$6,101 98

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM ATHERTON,	} Selectmen of Chesterfield.
MURRAY DAVIS,	
GEORGE GOODRICH,	

ANNUAL REPORT OF SCHOOLS.

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS:—

The general prosperity of our schools, the past year has been cheering. Not more than two or three, perhaps, of all the teachers employed, might have been in some other business, as well.

I will speak of each district in order.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Emma Snow. Wages per month, \$20. Length of school, 10 weeks. Whole number of scholars, 40.

Fidelity and good management prepared this school for a pleasing examination, yet want of voice and life was some defect.

Winter Term: Teacher, Mr. D. L. Mansfield. Wages, \$25. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 41.

In this school, manners and morals, as well as book-lessons, were looked after. "Punctual attendance, good lessons, and good conduct" were every day rules. Fifteen scholars were not absent a day.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Lenna Streeter. Wages, \$18. Length, 8 weeks. Scholars, 15.

Commendable progress in study was manifest at the close. More life and voice, would helped the cause.

Winter Term: Teacher, Miss Cora Hubbard. Length, 10 weeks. Wages, \$25. Scholars, 10.

This school began in full hope, under a former teacher. The school is now in session, and will, no doubt, close in prosperity.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Alice Kathan. Wages, \$18. Time, 7 weeks. Scholars, 16.

Progress in study commendable for the time. But an increase of life and love in the art would have been a premium.

Winter Term: Teacher, Mr. E. D. Wells. Wages, \$33. Length, 11 weeks. Scholars, 18.

This school was well organized and promised success, under the same teacher as last year. The violence of the weather prevented my closing visit. But the close must have been a success, for the pupils had a leader with tact and soul in his work.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Emma Brown. Wages, \$20. Length, 10 weeks. Scholars, 11.

Winter Term: Teacher, the same. Wages, \$22. Length, 11 weeks. Scholars, 9.

The teacher and pupils seemed to have one heart and interest in all their labors. Life and accuracy marked the closing exercises. Oral lessons of the smaller pupils were an entertainment.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Ada Johnson. Wages, \$20. Length, 8 weeks. Scholars, 17.

There was painstaking on the part of the teacher, and improvement on the part of the scholars. Yet more life and drilling of the classes would have done no hurt.

Winter Term: Teacher, Mr. J. W. Cross. Wages, \$32. Length, 11 weeks. Scholars, 23.

Promptness and accuracy in recitations at the close, were commendable. Improvement in writing was more than common. Singing by note, in all the schools was a rare excellence.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Ida Hubbard. Wages, \$18. Length, 9 weeks. Scholars, 6.

This school was well classed and instructed, and showed respect to themselves and teacher at the close.

Winter Term: Teacher, Miss Nellie Hale. Wages, \$20. Length, 11 weeks. Scholars, 18.

A teacher of experience, heart and skill to lead her pupils on. Repeating the Lord's prayer in concert by the school was a fine example.

DISTRICT No. 7.

Summer and Winter Terms combined in one: Teacher, Miss Cora Hubbard. Wages, \$25. Length, 15 weeks. Scholars, 26.

An experienced teacher, with tact and heart in her work, made herself profitable to this school.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Anna Atherton. Wages, \$18. Length, 5 weeks. Scholars, 14.

This school began with fair prospects of success, and it is fair to conclude that it closed with marks of improvement. Your committee did not receive notice in season to make his closing visit.

Winter Term: Teacher, Miss Ida Hubbard. Wages, \$20. Length, 12 weeks. Scholars, 17.

The severity of the weather prevented my closing visit this term also. But a good report of the school comes from some of the parents.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Frances Eaton. Wages, \$19. Length, 9 weeks. Scholars, 13.

Teacher and pupils seemed to work in harmony and to good purpose. God was acknowledged here by repeating daily the Lord's prayer. "Go thou and do likewise."

Winter Term: Teacher, Miss Anna Doolittle. Wages, \$22. Length, 12 weeks. Scholars, 16.

This school appeared to have been carefully and faithfully taught, and with gratifying success.

DISTRICT No. 10.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Julia Davis. Wages, \$20. Length, 9 weeks. Scholars, 10.

With a mind to her calling, skill, and past experience, this teacher was useful to the school. There was some improvement in reading, which there was room for.

Second Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Emma Snow. Wages, \$20. Length, 7 weeks. Scholars, 6.

What the last teacher did, this one did. Both are entitled to credit for fidelity in their work.

Winter Term: Teacher, Mr. G. F. Burnham. Wages, \$28.
Length, 12 weeks. Scholars, 7.

The teacher, of long experience, had in this district but a small amount of material to work upon, but it was well worked. There was marked improvement in reading, and in most of the branches.

DISTRICT No. 11.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Lucy Parker. Wages, \$14.
Length, 6 weeks. Scholars, 4.

A beginner in the art, but labored with discretion and fidelity, and helped the school well for the time.

Winter Term: Teacher, Miss Lenna Streeter. Wages, \$16.
Length, 12 weeks. Scholars, 4.

A good school, what there is of it. The time was well improved by all who loved learning, to increase their intellectual stores.

DISTRICT No. 12.

Summer Term: Teacher, Mrs. E. Darling. Wages, \$18.
Length, 8 weeks. Scholars, 9.

Life and love were manifest in all the exercises of this school. Map drawing was a special exercise for all the scholars. Oral lessons were fine.

Winter Term: Teacher, Miss A. Cressy. Wages, \$16.
Length, 12 weeks. Scholars, 10.

A part of this school left before the term closed. Those who were present at the close, appeared to have been cared for and well instructed.

DISTRICT No. 13.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Eva Holman. Wages, \$26.
Length, 10 weeks. Scholars, 45.

This school was interrupted by sickness, and disbanded for a while. It finally closed with pleasing evidence of improvement. Yet stronger government and less tardiness would have led to a still better close.

Winter Term: Teacher, in senior department, Miss Lois Leach. Wages, \$28. Length, 10 weeks. Scholars, 16.

An experienced teacher and profitable to the school. Fine singing was a benefit, and a fine supplement to the whole.

Teacher, in primary department, Miss Addie Farwell. Wages, \$22. Length, 10 weeks. Scholars, 32.

At the close, the classes read, spelled, and recited with a relish. Some moral lessons were worthy of note; and singing also. Your committee would recommend more equality in the numbers of these two departments.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Summer Term: Teacher, Miss Addie Farwell. Wages, \$14. Length, 9 weeks. Scholars, 6.

Fidelity and improvement were commendable at the close of this school. Yet a little more life and drilling seemed to be called for.

Winter Term: Teacher, Mrs. Ella Pierce. Wages, \$18. Length, 9 weeks. Scholars, 4.

At the close of this term, good management and progress were visible. The teacher had plainly helped these few scholars to increase their intellectual storehouse.

A WORD TO PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEES.

The law requires this office to hire and pay the teacher, provide board and fuel, and make such occasional repairs as are needed, not exceeding five per cent. of the district money; to warn school meetings and notify the superintending committee of the terms; also to see that the money of the district is all schooled out.

It is wise for every district agent to consider what his district needs in the character of a teacher, and get, if possible, "*The right teacher into the right place.*" Not always the first that comes along and begs for the place.

A WORD TO TEACHERS.

You that would be teachers, consider the vast difference between *keeping* a school and *teaching* a school. To *teach* a school is no common off-hand business. It is the most important station

in the town or nation. Your work in the school room is to teach and fit children to be good neighbors and citizens of the world. Your influence here goes down to posterity.

You are to teach not only the lessons found in the books, but to regulate the manners and conduct of your pupils. This calls for your thought, skill and wisdom to be used. A school teacher should *adopt* all the pupils of the school room, at once, as his or her own little family for the term. Each to be cared for, and no one neglected, if not quite so lovely at first sight, or bright to learn. If one is *dull* let your care and pity contrive to *sharpen* him.

If the home influence has not been good on a child, he will show it in the school-room. Part of a teacher's duty is, by their own kindness and good judgment, to correct the evil of that *home influence*. This is a task for the school-room, besides hearing scholars read and spell, and recite lessons.

Hence, try to wake up an interest in study, and make the duties and exercises of the school-room a greater pleasure than the play ground, or *any outside* pleasures. Do this, and the school teachers art is complete.

A WORD TO PARENTS.

For the sake of your children in present and coming years, your best influence is needed in sustaining our schools, direct and indirect. To make a short visit to the school-room, and there, or by the way, speak an encouraging word to the teacher will help a teacher's success. But if you think you have cause of complaint, let the teacher be the *first one* to hear your complaint; and this in private and candor.

It is of prime importance to have good teachers, fitted by education, good sense, and heart for their work. But no teacher is able to suit every variety of notions and ideas afloat. The whims of every child should not be listened to by the parent. Forbear a little, where we are crossed, is often a good remedy. "*Wait and see.*" Children always carry their likes and dislikes home and tell them. Parents too often listen to every word, as large as the child tells it, and get a child's understanding of the matter, then talk about it to others. In this way the best efforts of good teachers are often diminished, and the school injured.

Parents, never express your opinion against school teachers in the presence of your children, unless you wish to reap, in after years, the bad fruits of it on your children.

CONCLUSION.

Your committee has attended to the duties entrusted to him, with all the care and fidelity at his command, watching progress and regulating defects. Respectfully submitted,

J. HALL, Sup. Committee.

Chesterfield, March 1, 1879.



